CODE NAME: GRAVEDIGGER in

# MEN OF WAR

40¢
ALL NEW!
NO. 25
FEB.

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

DON'T WORRY, MISTER PRESIDENT, I'LL SAVE YOU!

EVEN IF I HAVE TO DIE TO DO IT!

0 70989 32453 02

# Shhhh DON'T LET LOIS LANE* FIND OUT YOU'RE A FRIEND OF SUPERMAN™

She's so snoopy, she'll want to know where you got that neat SUPERMOBILE*. Don't tell her it's from Corgi. See, we wanted to make these cars just the right size (and just the right price) for *you*.

So you can just stick 'em in your pocket and take the fun wherever you go. Neat, huh?



corgi

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HANDLER OF THE DEAD: A RATHER IGNOBLE POSITION FOR A MAN SOON TO BECOME LEGEND. BUT THEN, NO ONE EVER SAID THAT WAR IS LONG ON LOGIC. JUST ASK ULYSSES HAZARD, A MAN WHO HAD TO FIGHT NOT ONLY THE ENEMY--BUT HIS OWN COUNTRY---TO EARN THE...

# CODE NAME: Gravedigger

MOMENT OF CRISIS: THAT'S WHAT A HISTORIAN WOULD CALL IT-- IF ONE KNEW WHAT WAS GOING ON!

THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONFERENCE -- BUT A CONFERENCE IN GRAVE DANGER!

-- GRAVEDIGGER! GRAVEDIGGER!? REPORT YOUR POSITION!

RIGHT BEHIND YOU, MR. UNDERSECRETARY!

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING THERE?

THAT'S THE $64 QUESTION AS GRAVEDIGGER BEGINS THE MOST IMPORTANT MISSION OF HIS LIFE--

# SAVE the PRESIDENT!

JACK C. HARRIS ☆ DICK AYERS & ROMEO TANGHAL
WRITER ARTISTS

SHELLY LEFERMAN, LETTERER ☆ PAUL LEVITZ
JERRY SERPE, COLORIST EDITOR

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YOU'VE ABANDONED YOUR POST, HAZARD-- EXPLAIN YOURSELF!

THESE, MR. UNDER-SECRETARY, ARE THE *REAL* SECRET SERVICE MEN-- AND THE TRAITOROUS MOTOR POOL DRIVER WHO HELPED *ABDUCT* THEM!

THE MEN YOU *THOUGHT* WERE PROTECTING THE PRESIDENT AND THE PRIME MINISTER ARE *NAZI ASSASSINS*--

--NOW LET'S QUIT JAWING AND *OPEN THIS DOOR!*

NO...IT *WON'T WORK* THAT WAY! THE DOOR MAY LOOK LIKE PLAIN WOOD, BUT IT'S ACTUALLY *STEEL-REINFORCED!*

I HAVE TO *RADIO* IN!

THEY DON'T *ANSWER*-- THE M.P.'S GUARDING THE DOOR ARE EITHER IN *LEAGUE* WITH THE NAZIS YOU SAY ARE IN THERE...

...OR THEY'RE *DEAD*-- STAND BACK!

*BACK OFF*-- THERE'S NO TIME TO FOOL AROUND!

BRRROOOM

THERE--THERE'S NO ONE *THERE*? NO M.P.'S?

FACE IT, MAN... EVERYONE YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO *PROTECT* IN THERE IS *DEAD!*

THAT LITTLE TRAITOR MAY BE *RIGHT*, MR. UNDERSECRETARY, BUT YOU *ASSIGNED* ME TO THIS MISSION AND I AIM TO SEE IT *THROUGH!*

GO TO IT, GRAVEDIGGER...

...HE *HAS* TO SUCCEED--IT MIGHT MEAN THE *LIVES* OF F.D.R. AND CHURCHILL... BUT EVEN IF HE DOESN'T, I CAN BLAME *HIM* FOR THE ENTIRE INCIDENT, AND BE *RID* OF HIM ONCE AND FOR ALL!

KIND OF STRANGE... THE UNDERSECRETARY'S GOING ALONG WITH ME... IT'S NOT LIKE HIM...

SPREAD OUT... REPORT ANYTHING YOU FIND!

THE ONLY SOUND IS FOOT STEPS ON WOOD...ALL ELSE IS SILENT...

THOSE SECRET SERVICE GUYS ARE *PROS*--- THEY'RE GIVING THIS PLACE THE ONCE-OVER IN *RECORD TIME!*

HEY...! THIS PLACE *AIN'T* DESERTED...

SOMETHING'S WRONG... HE SHOULD'VE *HEARD* THAT PINE APPLE BLAST OPEN THE DOOR...

MP

BUT AS HAZARD'S HAND BRUSHES THE GUARD'S SHOULDER...

*DEAD!* MY GOD! I JUST MIGHT BE TOO LATE TO SAVE *ANYONE ELSE!*

MP

SECONDS TICK BY AND...

IT'S *SENSELESS*, CAPTAIN. THE PLACE IS EMPTY. *WHOA!* WHAT HAVE WE *HERE?*

A GUARD-- WHO MUST HAVE BEEN GUARDING *SOMETHING!*

REGROUPING, THE SMALL BAND ADVANCES TO THE ONLY *UNEXPLORED* ROOM...

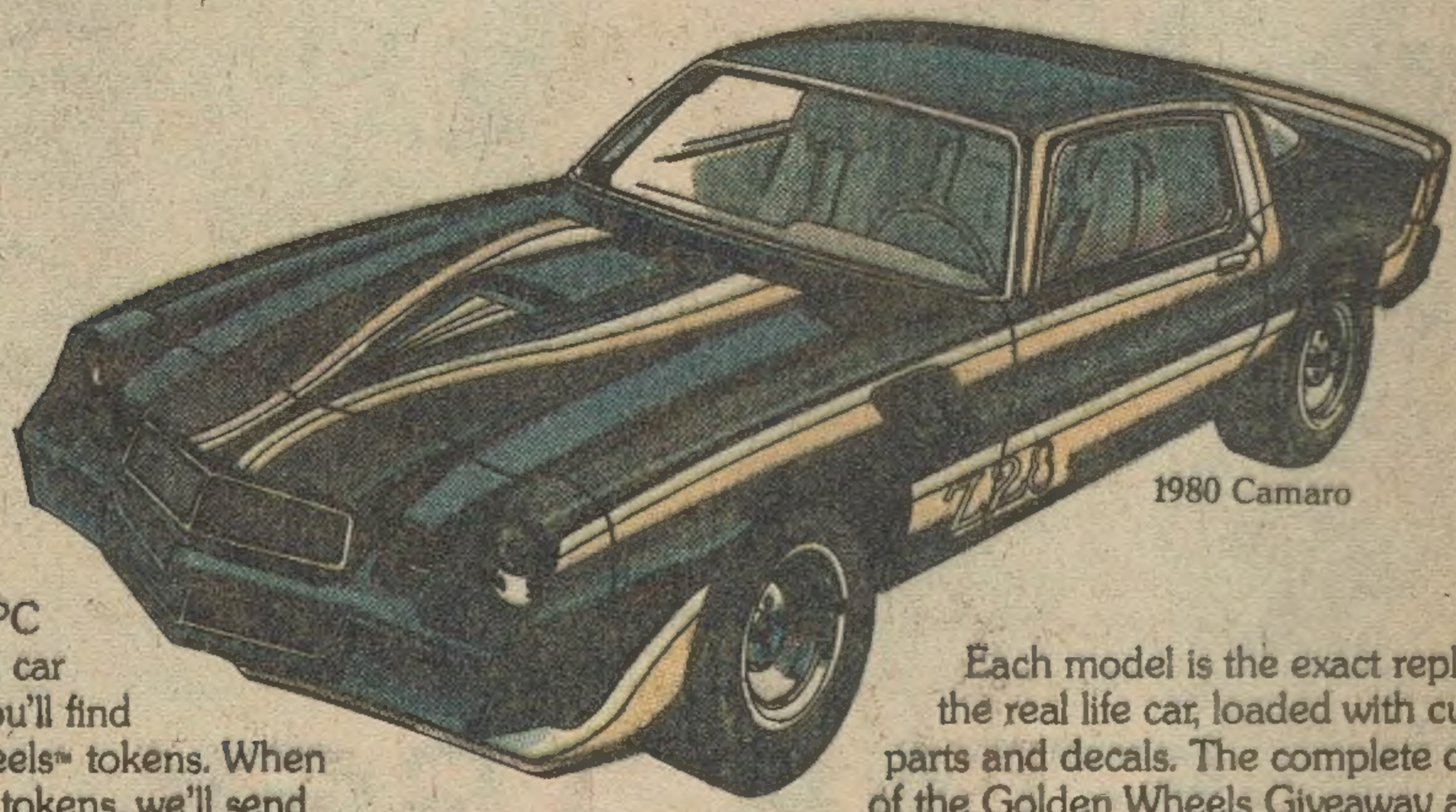
4

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

**NOW PLAYING AT A THEATRE NEAR YOU.**

# THIS SET OF MPC WHEELS

# GETS YOU THIS SET OF MPC WHEELS FREE.

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On every MPC 1980 annual car model kit, you'll find Golden Wheels™ tokens. When you save 20 tokens, we'll send you your choice of a free MPC model 1980 Camaro Z-28, Monza, Monte Carlo, Duster or GMC "El Diablo."

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Available in the U.S. only.

KRAKK

NO TIME TO BE SUBTLE --GET READY TO HIT THE DECK!

A BROOM CLOSET! THERE'S NO ONE IN THE ENTIRE HOUSE!-

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! I SAW THE PRESIDENT, THE PRIME MINISTER-- AND THOSE PHONY SECRET SERVICE MEN COME IN THIS HOUSE!

C'MON --LET'S CHECK THE GROUNDS! THEY HAVE TO--

--UHHNNH!

CAPTAIN! YOU OKAY?

YEAH, YEAH... I JUST TRIPPED OVER...OVER...

TELL ME SOMETHING -- WHY ON EARTH IS THIS ROOM SIX INCHES LOWER THAN THE REST OF THE HOUSE?

HUH?

BUT BEFORE THE QUESTION IS ANSWERED...

GRAVEDIGGER! WHAT THE HELL'S HAPPENING IN HERE?

SUPPOSE YOU TELL ME, SIR! YOU WERE THE ONE WHO SET UP THIS LITTLE MEETING-- NOW FILL US IN ON WHERE EVERYONE'S DISAPPEARED TO!

US

YOU--YOU MEAN THE WHOLE HOUSE IS EMPTY? I...I... THIS PLACE WAS CLEARED BY BRITISH INTELLIGENCE-- IT WAS SECURE!

YEAH? WELL, SOMEONE'S GOING TO BE MIGHTY PEEVED AT US FOR LOSING MR. CHURCHILL AND F.D.R.!

WE'VE LOOKED THIS PLACE UP AND DOWN AND-- THAT'S IT! UP AND DOWN!

SNAP

US

THAT'S WHY THIS ROOM IS LOWER--THE ENTIRE ROOM IS AN ELEVATOR LEADING TO SOME SUB-BASEMENT CHAMBERS...

THAT HAS TO BE THE ANSWER--FIND THE SWITCH! GET US DOWN THERE!

I'VE GOT IT!

CHICK

MMMMMMMM

GO TO IT, MEN... I'LL RADIO FOR REINFORCEMENTS-- AND KEEP YOUR PRISONER SECURE...

YES, SIR-- AND WRITE MY MOMMA IF I DON'T COME BACK!

US

TWO FULL STORIES BELOW THE HOUSE, THE NAZI AGENTS ARE ATTEMPTING TO BREACH THE LAST OBSTACLE BETWEEN THEM AND THE ALLIES' LEADERS...

BUT--

HURRY! WE HAVE ONLY MOMENTS--

MMMMM

SIR--THE ELEVATOR-ROOM'S BEEN ACTIVATED!

THE MECHANICAL HUM CLICKS TO A HALT, AND...

ON MY SIGNAL...

MOW THEM DOWN!

UNNGH!

BLAM BLAM

THE DOOR--PULL IT CLOSED! IT'S REINFORCED LIKE THIS WHOLE BUILDING!

YOU'VE GOTTEN US THIS FAR, CAPTAIN...YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS ON WHERE WE GO NEXT?

Y'KNOW, I JUST MIGHT... WHAT'S THAT *THING* IN THE SHAFT--?

IT LOOKS LIKE AN *AIR VENT*, BUT--

RIGHT! AND I FIGURE *EVERYONE'S* GOT TO BREATHE, RIGHT?

IF I CAN SQUEEZE THROUGH THIS THING, IT JUST MIGHT *LEAD* TO THAT OTHER ROOM!

UNNNN...I'M GOING TO... HAVE TO *GIVE UP*...THOSE HEAVY MESS HALL MEALS...

INCH BY INCH, GRAVEDIGGER CRAWLS FORWARD, NOT COMPLETELY CERTAIN OF HIS DIRECTION...

ONLY GOT A GLIMPSE OF HOW FAR AWAY THAT ROOM WAS...HOPE I CAN GET THERE IN *TIME!*

AND IN THE CORRIDOR...

*REGROUP* UP HERE -- THEY WON'T *DARE* OPEN THAT DOOR AGAIN! WE'RE ALMOST THROUGH!

*SHHH*...THEY'VE MOVED AWAY. MAYBE THE CAPTAIN'LL CAUSE SOME *DIVERSION* WE CAN BACK HIM UP...

ONE LAST TWIST THROUGH THE NARROW SHAFT, AND...

THERE'S THE PRESIDENT! I MADE IT! BUT WHAT GOOD IS IT? I CAN'T GET EITHER OF THEM THROUGH THIS SHAFT!

AT LEAST I'LL BE *IN* THERE WITH THEM... SOME *PROTECTION* WHEN THE NAZIS BURST THROUGH...



CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING

ADVERTISEMENT

# HAWKMAN™ MAKES A SAFE LANDING

A PERFECT MORNING FOR SKY DIVING...

AND FOR FLYING.

SUDDENLY AN ANGUISHED CRY RINGS OUT.

MY CHUTE! IT'S NOT OPENING!!!

THE AIR RESOUNDS WITH THE FRENZIED BEATING OF POWERFUL WINGS.

GOT YOU!

HAWKMAN, YOU'VE SAVED ME...

AND THE *HOSTESS®* CUP CAKES. AND I'M READY FOR SOME RIGHT NOW.

ME, TOO. CHOCOLATY CAKE, FUDGY ICING.

CREAMED FILLING.

THANKS FOR THE RESCUE, HAWKMAN.

FORGET IT... JUST ENJOY YOUR *HOSTESS* CUP CAKES.

YOU GET A BIG DELIGHT IN EVERY BITE OF HOSTESS® CUP CAKES

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YOU'VE BEEN EARTHBOUND LONG ENOUGH!
ENTER THE--

TIMEWARP

DOOMSDAY TALES AND OTHER THINGS

Dollar Comic

8 NEW STORIES!

#3 ON SALE NOV. 20th!

TM and © DC COMICS INC., 1979

CAPTAIN HAZARD!

MY WORD--!

GOOD EVENING, GENTLEMEN...

BUT AT THAT SECOND--

WE'RE *THROUGH!* ARMS READY-- THE ALLIES' LEADERS' *SECONDS ARE NUMBERED!*

TURN...TURN AND FACE YOUR *EXECUTIONERS*, ENEMIES OF THE GLORIOUS *THIRD REICH...!*

A SHOUT--

MR. PRESIDENT-- FLATTEN!

--AND A BLUR OF MOTION!

GRAVEDIGGER'S COMIN' THROUGH!

WITH THE SUDDEN COMMOTION, THE SECRET SERVICE GOES INTO ACTION!

HE IT--NOW'S OUR CHANCE!

GIVE IT UP--YOU FAILED YOUR NAZI BOSSES REAL BAD, PAL!

ARRAGH!

KAPOW

BLAM BLAM

WATCH OUT, CAPTAIN--HE'S GOT A KNIFE!

YIP

CLANG

UNNNFF--!

YOU PLAY DIRTY RIGHT TO THE END, DON'T YOU!

I...THOUGHT YOU USED YOUR LAST KNIFE TO STICK THAT M.P. UPSTAIRS...

BUT I GUESS THAT WAS MY ONLY MISTAKE TODAY SO FAR...

US

US

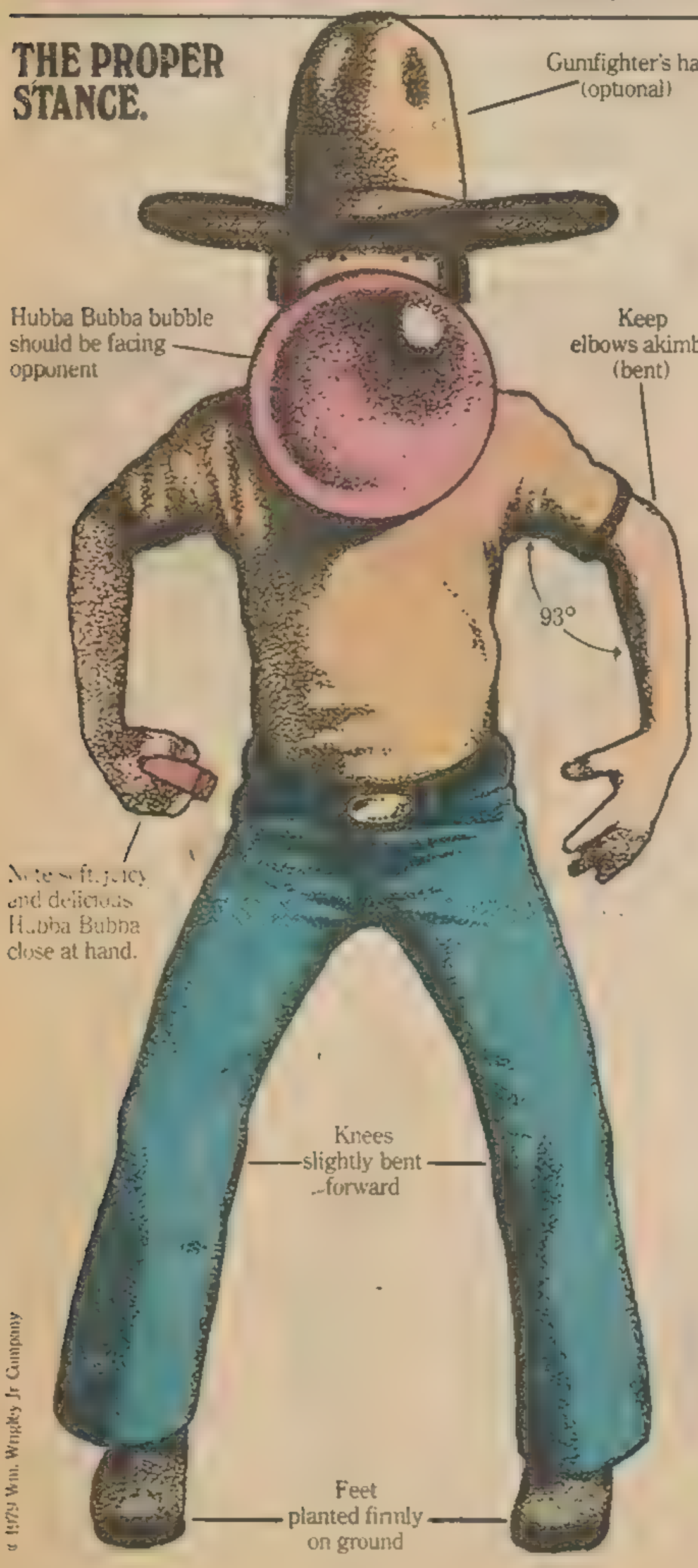
10

CONCLUDED ON 4TH PAGE FOLLOWING

# GUMFIGHTING DO'S AND DON'TS.

The first thing to do—pick the right chew: new Hubba Bubba.® The soft and juicy bubble gum with amazing no-stick bubbles.™ Then proceed with this simple yet effective gumfight drill: (1) Begin blowing bubble. Note Hubba Bubba's incredibly large bubble. (2) When the Hubba Bubba bubble breaks do not be alarmed. (3) Simply remove Hubba Bubba from your face. That's right, simply remove and replace in mouth. Return to step 1. Repeat drill ten times.

## THE PROPER STANCE.


Gumfighter's hat (optional)
Hubba Bubba bubble should be facing opponent
Keep elbows akimbo (bent)
93°
Note soft, juicy and delicious Hubba Bubba close at hand.
Knees slightly bent —forward
Feet planted firmly on ground

© 1979 Wm. Wrigley Jr Company

## YOUR SIZE IS NOT IMPORTANT.

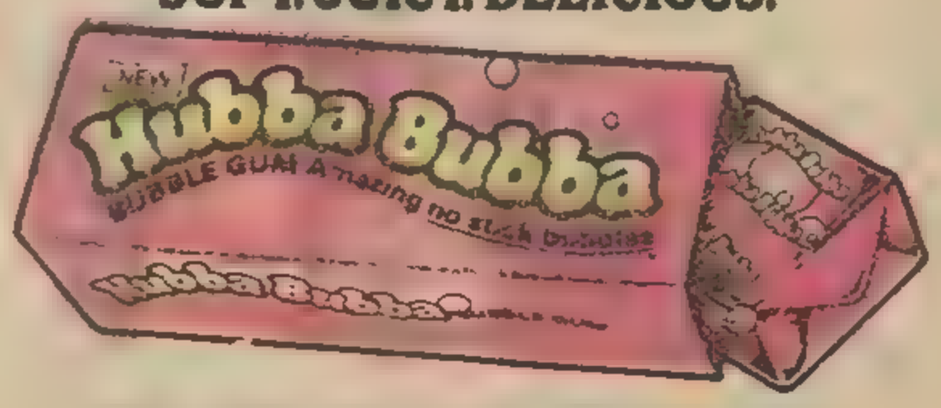
The size of your bubble is. And that means choosing the right bubble gum —Hubba Bubba. Because when it comes to great, big, fat bubbles, nothing sizes up to a Hubba Bubba bubble.

## ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTES.

This boy did. And now instead of wearing a smile, he's wearing a paper bag over the bubble gum stuck to his face. Definitely not new soft and juicy Hubba Bubba Bubble Gum. Does Hubba Bubba really work? Absolutely! Hubba Bubba is gumfighter tested and approved.

So pick up a pack of new Hubba Bubba in original or mint flavor. Enjoy that soft, juicy, delicious taste. Plus those great, big Hubba Bubba bubbles that won't stick to your face.

## SOFT. JUICY. DELICIOUS.



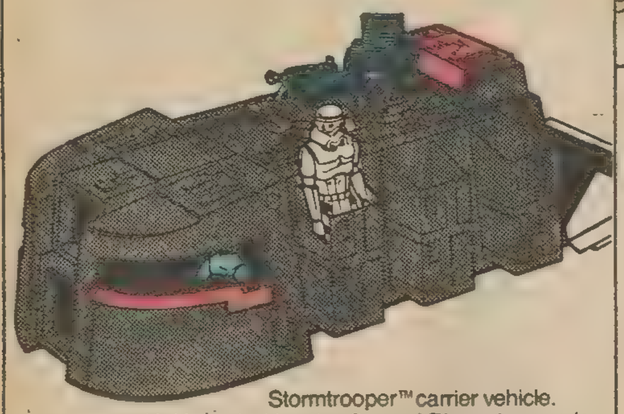

## BIG BUBBLES, NO TROUBLES.

# STAR WARS™

## NOW, FROM THE GREATEST MOVIE OF ALL TIME COMES THE KENNER® STAR WARS™ TOY COLLECTION!

1978 Twentieth Century Fox Film Corp.

## NEW STAR WARS™ IMPERIAL TROOP TRANSPORTER™

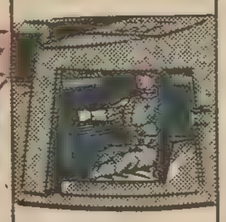


Stormtrooper™ carrier vehicle. Holds up to 11 action figures! Plays six sounds from Star Wars™ including R2-D2,™ C-3PO™ and Stormtrooper.™ *Assembly required.*

*Star Wars™ action figures not included. Batteries not included.*

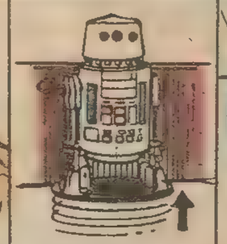
Push buttons and hear Star Wars™ sounds.

Movable Laser Gun™ and radar dish.

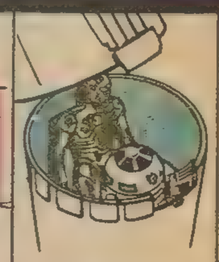


Place figure in driver's seat.

Lever makes Jawa™ move, knock over & capture R2-D2.™

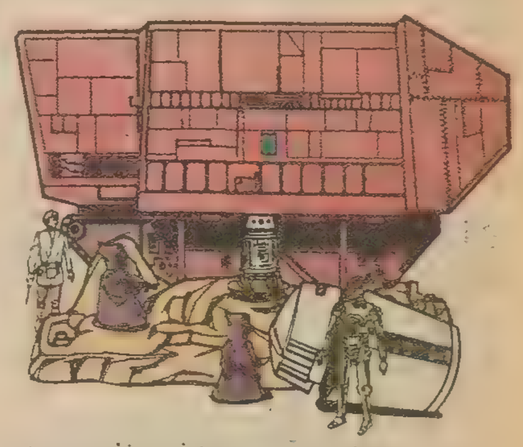


Elevator lifts up into Sandcrawler™



Escape landing pod.

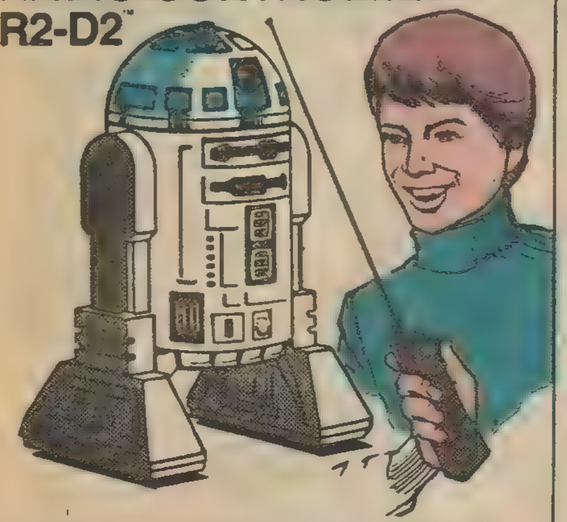
## NEW STAR WARS™ LAND OF THE JAWAS™



An action playset to recreate the adventures of the mysterious Jawas™ and their Sandcrawler™ on Tatooine™ desert! *Assembly required.*

*Star Wars™ action figures not included.*

## STAR WARS™ RADIO-CONTROLLED R2-D2™



You can make the lovable little droid come to life with wireless radio control! He beeps, flashes his light, turns his head and moves in all directions! 8" Tall.

*Batteries not included.*

## NEW STAR WARS™ CREATURE CANTINA™

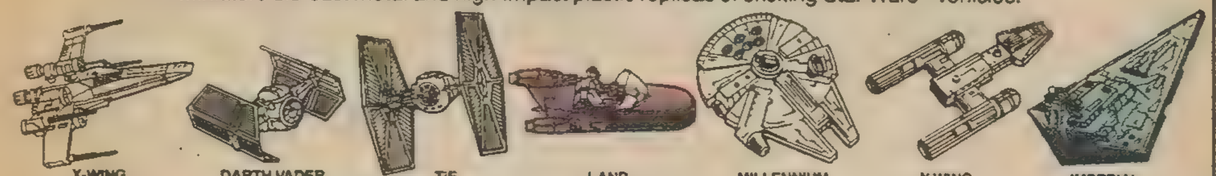
Relive the fun of that crazy and weird Cantina™ and its creatures. Exciting playset has action lever movement for mock battles and automatic door action.

*Assembly required.*

*Star Wars™ action figures not included.*

## STAR WARS™ DIE-CAST VEHICLES

Miniature die-cast metal and high-impact plastic replicas of exciting Star Wars™ vehicles.



X-WING FIGHTER™ · DARTH VADER TIE FIGHTER™ · TIE FIGHTER™ · LAND SPEEDER™ · MILLENNIUM FALCON™ · Y-WING FIGHTER™ · IMPERIAL CRUISER™

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WALRUS MAN™ · R5-D4™ · POWER DROID™ · DEATH STAR DROID™ · BOBA FETT™ · SNAGGLETOOTH™ · GREEDO™ · HAMMERHEAD™ · LUKE SKYWALKER™ X-WING PILOT™

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Have you completed your collection?

COLLECTOR'S CASE
Holds 24 Star Wars™ action figures.

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*Action figures each sold separately.*

**SEE KENNER'S EXCITING STAR WARS COLLECTION AT YOUR FAVORITE TOY STORE NOW!**

DAWN, AS A SEMBLANCE OF ORDER DESCENDS AROUND THE HOUSE ON THE HILL...

YOU'RE DESERVING OF A MEDAL, MY BOY...YOU'RE A CREDIT TO THE SERVICE...

MY DUTY, SIR... I WAS JUST DOING MY DUTY!

THAT MAY BE HOW YOU SEE IT, LAD, BUT I KNOW BETTER.

AND IT MAKES ME ALL THE SADDER ABOUT WHAT I HAVE TO DO NOW!

THERE WAS A REASON FOR THIS SECRET SUMMIT MEETING, CAPTAIN HAZARD-- A VITALLY IMPORTANT MISSION THAT ALL THE ALLIES' BEST OPERATIVES ARE BEING SENT ON.

AT FIRST I THOUGHT WE WOULD SEND THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER-- BUT SINCE YOU'RE HERE, HAZARD, YOU'VE BEEN VOLUNTEERED.

SECRET

YOU MEAN YOU'RE SENDING ME TO HANDLE A JOB YOU WERE GONNA GIVE YOUR NUMBER ONE BOY?

THAT'S RIGHT, LAD-- AND IF YOU MANAGE TO LIVE THROUGH IT, IT'S ONLY THE BE-GINNING!

GOOD LUCK, LAD-- YOU'LL NEED IT!

SECRET

END.

SIERRA MADRE, MEXICO. MAY 22, 1867:

HIRED TO BRING THE YOUNG NEPHEW OF THE *DEPOSED RULER* OF MEXICO TO SAFETY, *ROSA* AND A LOYAL FOLLOWER OF ARCHDUKE MAXIMILIAN TAKE TO THE *FOOTHILLS...*

TO PASS THE LONG HOURS TILL *DAWN*, THE *MASTER-SPY* TELLS THE FRIGHTENED AUSTRIAN PRINCE THE TALE OF HIS *UNIQUE LIFE* *--

*LAST ISSUE. --PAUL

# ROSA

MASTER - SPY

*PAUL KUPPERBERG:* WRITER/CREATOR
*JERRY GRANDENETTI:* ARTIST *JERRY SERPE:* COLORIST
*ALBERT DE GUZMAN:* LETTERER *PAUL LEVITZ:* EDITOR

SOMEWHERE IN RUSSIA. JANUARY 5, 1856:

A CHILD WAS BORN AT SEA TO *EXPATRIATE* PARENTS--PARENTS LATER *KILLED* IN A BALKAN *REBELLION*--

--LEAVING THE BOY *WANDERING* EUROPE UNTIL HE WAS *IMPRESSED* INTO THE BRITISH ARMY TO BATTLE THE *RUSSIANS* IN THE CRIMEA...

THE AMBASSADOR'S SON AFFAIR

J-6055

STAND ASIDE, BOCHE!

THIS WAR IS NOT MINE--AND I SHALL KILL ANY MAN WHO SEEKS TO PREVENT MY LEAVING!

HE IS NOT A COWARD--BUT NEITHER IS HE A MAN TO FIGHT ANOTHER'S BATTLE! THUS, WHEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO FLEE PRESENTS ITSELF TO THE YOUNG SOLDIER--

--HE TAKES IT!

HO, PRIVATE! STOP NOW OR DIE THE COWARD'S DEATH--

--WITH A BLADE IN YOUR YELLOW SPINE!

STAND OFF, BRITISHER! I DID NOT ASK TO BE IN YOUR VERDAMMT ARMY--

--NOR SHALL I STAY IN IT ANY LONGER, IDIOTA!

BLIMOOO

UGHH!

THUD

SHALOM, FOOL! BE GLAD I SPARED YOUR WORTHLESS LIFE!

IRON SHOD HOOFS POUND SOUNDLESSLY AGAINST THE POWDERED SNOW AS THE YOUNG MAN URGES HIS MOUNT AWAY FROM THE BATTLE.

THROUGH THAT DAY AND NIGHT HE RIDES, PASSING UNCHALLENGED ACROSS THE BORDER INTO POLAND, UNTIL...

HO, MEINE FREUNDE!

I AM A TRAVELLER SEEKING FOOD AND SHELTER, MONSIEUR!

WE ARE BUT A POOR TROUPE OF WANDERING ACTORS, YOUNG MAN. BUT WHAT WE HAVE WE WILL GLADLY SHARE!

COME, TIE YOUR HORSE TO MY WAGON AND JOIN US!

2

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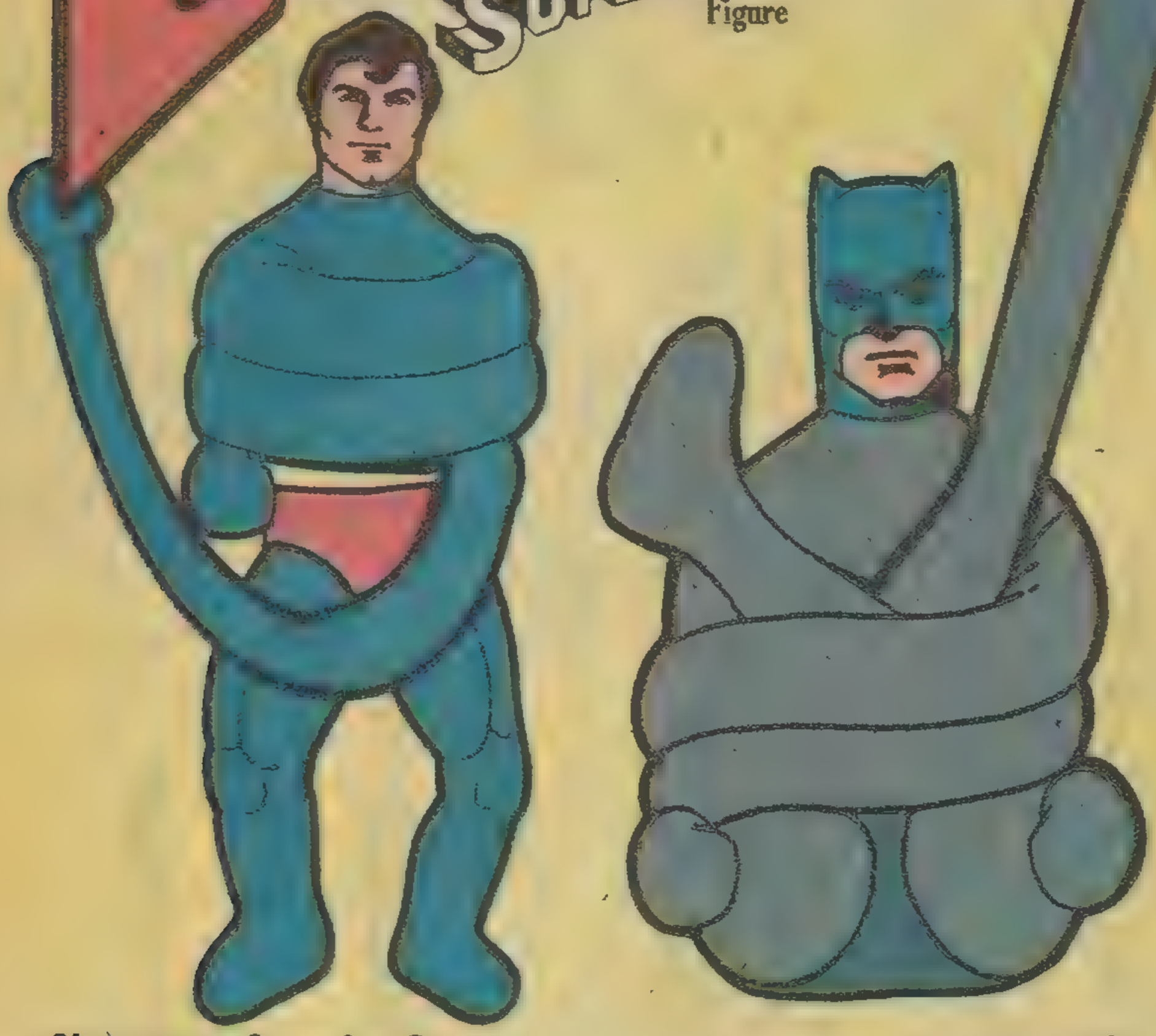
MEGO™ INTRODUCES

# ELASTIC

SUPERMAN® Figure



BATMAN® Figure

**Now your favorite Super Heroes are elastic! So you can bend em, twist em and stretch em anyway you like!**

**New Elastic Super Heroes, they're fantastic!**

Pat. Pend.

# SUPER HEROES™

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Soon the screen will be bombarded by the most explosive barrage of ever filmed

An A-team Production of
A STEVEN SPIELBERG FILM

COMING THIS CHRISTMAS TO A THEATRE NEAR YOU.

YOUR GARB IS *BRITISH*, YET YOUR *ACCENT*... THAT I *CANNOT PLACE*. WHERE ARE YOU FROM, YOUNG MAN?

THE *WORLD* IS MY HOME, STANISLEW-- THOUGH, PERHAPS I WOULD LIKE TO SETTLE WITH *YOU*--

--AND YOUR LOVELY DAUGHTER! DANKE, SENORITA!

HE HAD *FORGOTTEN* THE *WARMTH* OF FAMILY--BUT AS THE DAYS PASS, THOSE *DIM* MEMORIES *FLOOD* BACK!

HE FINDS *JOY* IN LEARNING THE *CRAFT* OF HIS NEW FAMILY--

--AND *REDISCOVERING* LOVE!

AN ACTOR MUST KNOW *MANY* SKILLS, AND THIS YOUNG MAN IS AN *EAGER* AND APT STUDENT.

THUNK

AND ERE LONG, THE *STUDENT* BECOMES THE *TEACHER*...

*NYET*, SWERYN! WATCH WHAT I DO AND WE WILL MAKE THIS TRICK EVEN *MORE* THRILLING!

AND FOR THE *FIRST* TIME SINCE HIS PARENTS' DEATH, HE IS A *WHOLE MAN!*

THE TROUPE'S *TRAVELS* TAKE THEM ALL ACROSS THE CONTINENT, AND IT IS MANY YEARS BEFORE THEY REACH *THIS* TINY BALKAN NATION--

--A NATION FULL OF *PAINFUL* MEMORIES OF *DEATH!*

MADRE DE DIOS! NEIN!

W-WHAT IS *WRONG*, MY LOVE?

THAT MAN-- H-HE IS THE *ONE!*

IT HAS BEEN SO MANY YEARS... I HAD NEARLY *FORGOTTEN*, BUT NOW...

...NOW MY PARENTS' MURDERER IS WITHIN MY GRASP!

WAIT, MY LOVE...!

HE PAYS NO HEED TO HIS LOVER'S *DESPERATE* PLEA, FOR *ALREADY* A PLAN FORMS IN HIS *ANGUISHED* MIND.

THUS, THE FOLLOWING DAY, OUTSIDE THIS TINY KINGDOM'S PALACE...

CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD HEINZ! WE DID NOT EXPECT YOU HERE TODAY...

AT EASE, GUARDS--

--IT IS MOST *URGENT* THAT I SPEAK WITH KING OTTO *IMMEDIATELY*! CARRY ON.

AYE., CAPTAIN HEINZ!

MMMUMPFFF!

AND SO...

CAPT. HEINZ! WHAT IS THE *MEANING* OF THIS *INTRUSION*?

I HAD TO *SEE* YOU, "*KING*" OTTO...TO BE *CERTAIN* YOU ARE THE ONE I SEEK, *MURDERER*!

*MURDE...!?* HAVE YOU GONE *MAD*?

*MAD*... OUI, PERHAPS I *AM*! BUT IT IS A MADNESS MOST *EASILY* CURED--

--*WITH YOUR BLOOD, DOG!*

W-WHO ARE *YOU*? WHAT HAS *HAPPENED* TO CAPTAIN HEINZ...?

YOU NEED NOT *CONCERN* YOURSELF WITH THE GOOD CAPTAIN'S WELFARE--

--ONLY YOUR OWN *SHORT-LIVED FUTURE*, ANIMAL!

HUH!?

I FOUGHT MANY YEARS TO BECOME KING...*TOO* MANY TO ALLOW A *MADMAN* TO TAKE IT FROM ME!

YOU REALLY *DO NOT* REMEMBER, DO YOU, *COCHINO*? YOU DO NOT RECALL THE MAN AND WOMAN YOU SO *CALLOUSLY SLEW* THOSE MANY YEARS AGO!

NOR DO YOU RECALL THE YOUNG BOY WHO FLED YOUR *MINDLESS MOB*--

KRAK!

UNNHH!

--BUT YOU *SHOULD* HAVE...FOR *NOW* I HAVE *RETURED* TO *REMIND* YOU, NEIN?

YOUR HIGHNESS, WE HEARD A *SCREAM* AND...*GUT GOTT!*

PRAY *PARDONE* MY MANNERS, MEINE HERREN BUT I SHAN'T BE ABLE TO STAY!

UTILIZING HIS MANY YEARS OF *TRAINING* WITH EUROPE'S *FINEST* ACROBATS, THE YOUNG MAN *SPRINGS* UPON THE PALACE GUARDS--

--AND MAKES GOOD HIS *ESCAPE* BEFORE THE STARTLED SOLDIERS CAN *REACT*!

AND EVEN AS HE FLEES THE *CASTLE GROUNDS*--

--HE *REALIZES* THAT AFTER A DECADE AND A HALF OF *AIMLESS* WANDERING, HE HAS AT *LAST* FOUND SOMETHING *WORTH* DOING--

--AND A *LIFE* WORTH **LIVING**...

CONCLUDED ON 3rd PAGE FOLLOWING

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SIERRA MADRE, MEXICO. MAY 23, 1867:

AH, DAWN AT LAST! IT IS TIME WE PREPARED TO TAKE LEAVE OF THIS WRETCHED PLACE, MEIN KINDER!

BUT YOUR STORY, HERR ROSA...?

...IS FINISHED, PRINCIPE RUDOLPH!

MONSIEUR... THE REBELS-- THEY COME!

PATIENCE, SGT. DUMEZ! I NEED BUT UNO MOMENTO!

A HIDDEN BUNDLE IS RETRIEVED BY THE MASTER-SPY, AND HE WORKS SWIFTLY TO ASSEMBLE ITS PIECES--

--BUT EVEN WHOLE, IT IS A MYSTERY TO ROSA'S COMPANIONS...

MON DIEU! WHAT MANNER OF CONTRAPTION IS THIS!?

IT IS A FLYING MACHINE, SGT! I ONLY REGRET I CANNOT TAKE YOU WITH US!

NON... EH, NON, MONSIEUR! I PREFER TO STAY ON THE GROUND, MYSELF!

NOW GO, MON AMI! I SHALL COVER YOU!

BANG BAM!

GRACIAS, AMIGO! VAYA CON DIOS... AND FAREWELL!

WITH A RUNNING LEAP, ROSA AND THE BOY PRINCE TAKE TO THE AIR!

AND LIKE SOME MONSTROUS CREATURE OF THE SKY, THEY SAIL BETWEEN THE STONEWALL CANYONS OF THE MOUNTAINS TOWARDS THE EAST...

6

...AND THE GULF OF CALIFORNIA...

THERE, LITTLE PRINCE! THESE MEN ARE TO TAKE YOU BACK TO AUSTRIA!

BUT YOU HAVE STILL NOT FINISHED YOUR STORY!

OH, THAT! YOU MAY FINISH IT YOURSELF, NIÑO--

--AFTER ALL, IT WAS MERELY A TALE OF FICTION... AND I AM CERTAIN YOUR IMAGINATION IS AS GOOD AS MINE!

AU REVOIR, YOUNG FRIEND!

THE END

NEXT ISSUE ON SALE FIRST WEEK IN DECEMBER

# BATTLE LINES

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Dear Editor,

Usually the backup feature is the highlight of a *MEN OF WAR* issue and #19 was no exception. "A Promise To The Dying" had Enemy Ace at his grim, fatalistic best and Chaykin's rather sketchy artwork perfectly created the necessary somber, half-real atmosphere. I continue to press for longer and more frequent Enemy Ace stories. At least I see that this issue he received a more prominent place on the cover. Hopefully that's the first step towards increased appearances.

What can I say about Gravedigger at this point except that although he's made some advances I'm a bit disappointed that Jack C. Harris has not been able to turn this feature into an acceptable war series. Jack is in my opinion an under-rated writer but I admit that the salvaging of Gravedigger is a formidable task. I'd like to see him (Gravedigger that is) in some situation in which his skin colour is not an immediate giveaway. (I mean a black guy in France with a cross-shaped scar on his face is not hard to pick out. I've been expecting him to start carrying a neon sign just in case anybody can't pick him out in a crowd.)

With respect to your call for battles to be covered in the Dateline: Frontline feature, I would like to suggest the battle of Dieppe. We Canadians take a somewhat perverse pride in our troops' part in this debacle. It is a little-noted event but it has some interesting side issues. Its supporters say it was a necessary prelude to D-Day in which the allies learned how *not* to mount a seaborne invasion. Its critics say that it was poorly planned and executed, that it sacrificed many lives needlessly, and that it was merely a sop to the Russians to "prove" to them that we couldn't yet open a western front.

Unsigned
Toronto, Ontario
Canada

*A final verdict on the Dateline:Frontline contest will be announced next issue, but in the meantime Cary Burkett is working away on a new series of stories set on the home front. These are tentatively scheduled to begin in #29.—PL.*

* * * * *

Dear Paul,

In a recent *MEN OF WAR* you featured a short story depicting Lincoln as showing compassion for a Union soldier who had fallen asleep at his post, and made him loathe to sign an order for the man's execution. The story was interesting, but I believe your writer confused Lincoln with another President.

Lincoln signed many execution orders through the course of the war; Jefferson Davis did not sign a single one. In fact, President Davis stated many times that he felt a soldier could be put to better use than as a target for his army's firing squads.

Robin Snyder
Box 8
Enterprise, FL 32725

*Interesting point, Robin, but we don't think it invalidates Bob Haney's story. While not doubting Davis' compassion, or the humanitarian feelings of either President, we think it's perfectly reasonable to depict Lincoln in the fictional incident shown, since it is in keeping with his character as best we know it.—PL.*

* * * * *

Dear Paul,

The adventures of Gravedigger need a shot in the arm, and the solution (as I see it) is really simple. Send him to the front lines and keep him there.

Behind the lines, or on the home front, or anywhere but in battle, Gravedigger comes off as a second-rate Unknown Soldier—especially since the Soldier's recent adventures have relied less on his skill with disguises than on his wits and espionage abilities.

At the front of the army's fighting men, however, he's an abnormality. Not only because he'd probably be the only black officer within miles, but because he has the unique training of having gone on the espionage missions. Even Sgt. Rock, master warrior that he is, is a fighter by instinct. Gravedigger's special training should make him something special—not just an also-ran.

Please consider making this change.

John Elliot
393 East 58 Street
Brooklyn, NY 11203

*Our very next issue will give you a taste of what you want, John, as Gravedigger goes up to the front lines to work with Sgt. Rock and the combat happy joes of Easy Co. A tale like that takes a full issue in the telling, of course, so we're going to give all seventeen pages over to Hazard's hopefully legendary "Night On Nickname Hill". But after that, we make no promises for frontline action, mainly because it'll be out of our hands.*

*Beginning with issue #27, Len Wein will be taking over the editorial chores on this magazine (and, a few months after that, on WEIRD WAR TALES) while ye editor devotes more time to the numerous special projects DC is currently planning. As the co-creator of Code Name:Gravedigger, we'll be sorry to see it disappear from our wall—but at least it's only moving next door!—Paul Levitz.*

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VOLUME 79 ISSUE 44 | WEEK OF NOVEMBER 5, 1979 | A BOB ROZAKIS PRODUCTION

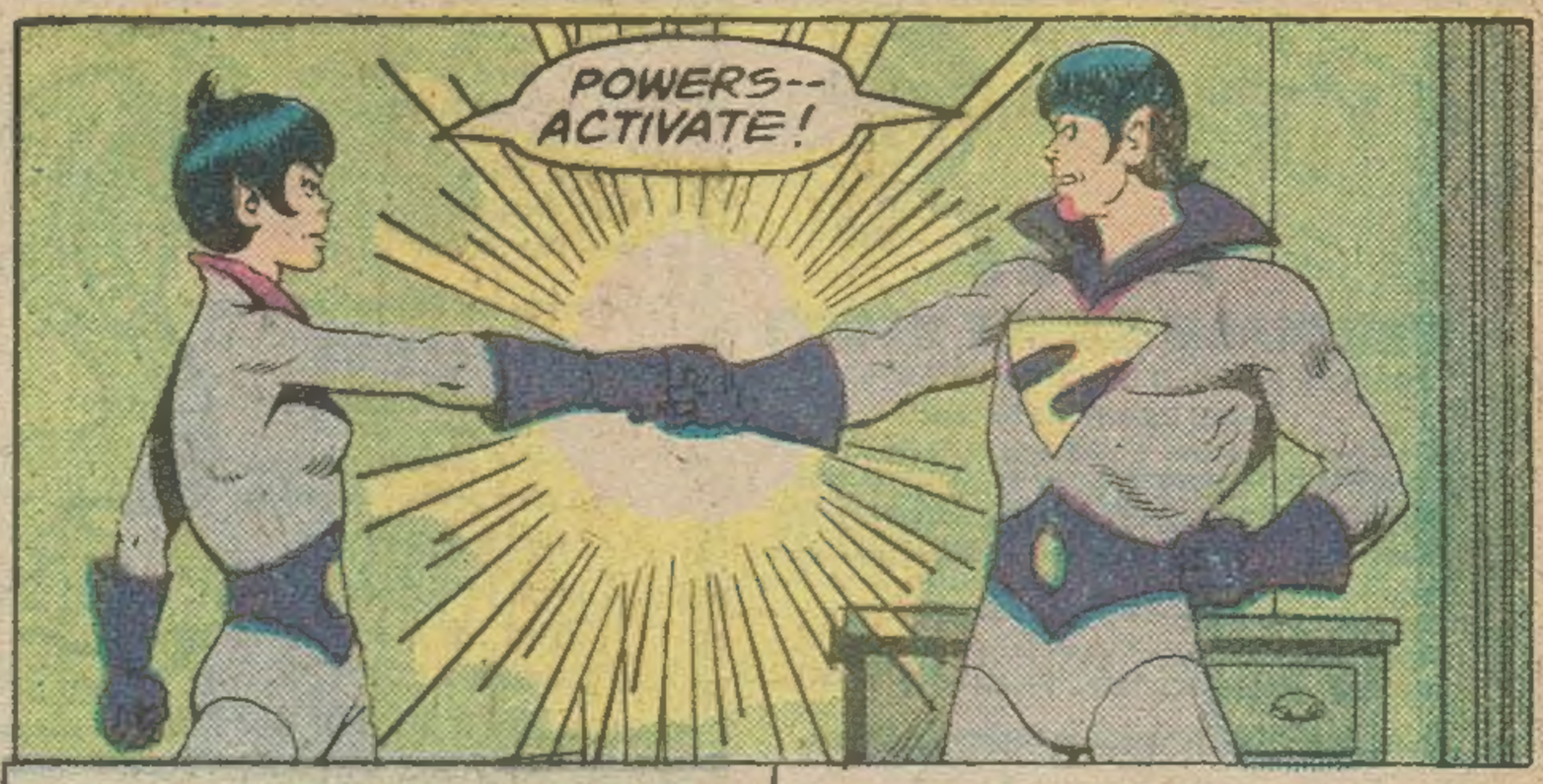
# WONDERTWINS SOLO ADVENTURE!

**TWO TALES IN SUPER FRIENDS #29**

(Gotham City)—You've asked for it for many months and *DC* bows to your demands. *SUPER FRIENDS* #29 will present a new tale of Zan and Jayna, the *Wondertwins*, in solo action. You'll learn more about their secret identities and how they live a daily life on Earth when E. Nelson Bridwell, Kurt Schaffenberger and Bob Smith present "The Scholars From the Stars!"

And also in the issue, the whole *Super Friends* team is in action as they become "The Invisible Defenders of Earth" in a Bridwell/Ramona Fradon/Smith collaboration.

It's double the excitement and double the fun when *SUPER FRIENDS* #29 goes on sale the week of November 19th!




## DIRECT CURRENTS

*ON SALE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 19th*

*SGT ROCK* #337—The men of Easy fight for "A Bridge Called Charlie" in a Robert Kanigher/Frank Redondo battle blockbuster.

*NEW ADVENTURES OF SUPERBOY* #2—Professor Lang becomes "The Demon Next Door" by Cary Bates, Kurt Schaffenberger and Dave Hunt. Plus: the same creative team serves up "Day of the Explosive Element".

*HOUSE OF MYSTERY* #277—Robert Kanigher, Martin Pasko, Howard Chaykin and Al Milgrom are in for a "Limited Engagement"; Bob Toomey and Mar Amongo work the "Graveyard Shift"; and George Kashdan, Nards Cruz and Joe Matuceno collect a "Measure of Treachery".

*ACTION COMICS* #504—A man with super-powers faces "The Power and the Choice" in this super-thriller by Cary Bates, Curt Swan and Frank Chiaramonte.

*ADVENTURE COMICS* #468—Another episode in the fabulous career of *Plastic Man* as he faces the Whirling Dervish by Len Wein, Joe Staton and Bob Smith. Plus: *Starman* in "Uneasy Lies the Crown" by Paul Levitz, Steve Ditko and Romeo Tanghal.

*AND ON SALE RIGHT NOW:*
*MEN OF WAR* #25 / *DC COMICS PRESENTS* #18 / *BATMAN* #320 / *THE FLASH* #282 / *G.I. COMBAT* #218 / *JONAH HEX* #33 / *JUSTICE LEAGUE* #175 / *WEIRD WAR TALES* #84 / *GHOSTS* #85 / *SECRETS OF HAUNTED HOUSE* #21 / *SUPERMAN* #344 / *WONDER WOMAN* #264 / *DETECTIVE COMICS* #488

*Q*: Could *The Flash* beat *Green Lantern* in a fight?—Pat McCarthy. *A*: If he was able to use the yellow parts of his costume to negate *GL*'s power beam, yes.

*Q*: How come *SUPERMAN* is your most popular comic?—Drew Williams. *A*: Because *Superman* is one of the world's most popular fictional characters.

*Q*:Will *Doom Patrol* ever get its own book again?—Pat McCarthy. *A*: Not in the near future.

*Q*: What is in *Captain Comet*'s holster?—Richie Thigpen. *A*: The answer was revealed in a story that has yet to be published. As soon as we find a space for *CC*, you'll hear about it.

*Q*: If *Superman* gets his flying power from Earth's weaker gravity, how can he fly through space?—Thomas Quigley. *A*: There's *no* gravity in space!

*Q*: Is *Flash* faster than *Superman*?—Vincent Boccia. *A*: Yes.

*Q*: Any way you can keep the *Wonder Woman* TV show on the air?—Kevin Knopp. *A*: We can't, but all you *WW* fans might if you write to CBS-TV and tell them how much you like the show.

*Q*: What are *BRAVE & BOLD* #'s 54 and 55 worth?—Carlo Dalla. *A*: $1 and 75¢, respectively, in good condition.

*Q*: Will Dick Grayson and Lori Elton ever get back together?—Unsigned. *A*: Probably not.

*Q*: What is Earth-X?—Unsigned. *A*: The world where the *Freedom Fighters* came from, a parallel Earth where the Nazis won World War II.

*Q*: Who was the editor of the Daily Star when Clark Kent first started working there?—Jonathan Cohen. *A*: George Taylor.

*Q*: Where does *Batman* keep his boots when he's Bruce Wayne?—William A. Hudson. *A*: Under his shoes and socks.

**SF EXCITEMENT IN TIME WARP #3**

(DC, New York)—*TIME WARP* is back with another fabulous issue of science fiction thrills. The lead story is entitled "Time Warp" and is the handiwork of Mike W. Barr, Ed Barretto and Dan Adkins. Then it's time for "Special Effects" by Scott Edelman and the Redondo Studio; "Rite of Spring" by Denny O'Neil and Dick Giordano; "In Love's Name" by J.M. DeMatteis and Tom Sutton; "Switch in Time" by David Allikas and Steve Ditko; "The Dimension of Greed" by DeMatteis and Ditko; and "Plague" by George Kashdan, Don Newton and Steve Mitchell.

You won't want to miss the most talked about comic of the year when *TIME WARP* #3 goes on sale the week of November 19th!

HEMBECK
ROBIN! WHAT ARE YOU DOING DRESSED LIKE THAT??
SIMPLE, BATMAN-- FROM NOW ON I WANT TO BE KNOWN AS--
--ROBIN THE BOY WONDER WOMAN!!

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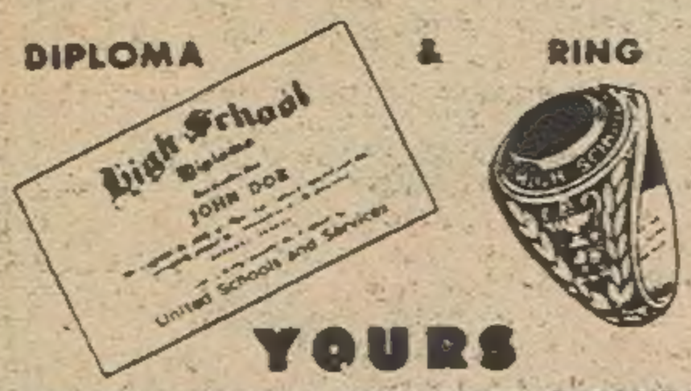


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